"SPACE MEDICINE" Shuttle – Space Station Crew Health and Safety Challenges for Exploration

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Medical Operations

Johnson Space Center

Houston The first word from the Moon







Space Medicine & Health Care Systems Office

Medical Operations Objective

To ensure the health, safety, and well being of the astronaut corps and ground support team during all phases of space flight.



















Mission Support

On-orbit Flight Control Room (FCR) Staffing







Surgeon Console - FCR

Physiological Issues

- Space Motion Sickness (SMS)
- Cardiovascular
- Neurovestibular
- Musculoskeletal
- Behavioral/Psycho-social

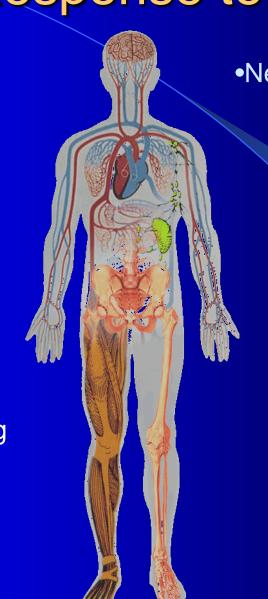


Human Response to Spaceflight

Astronauts experience a spectrum of adaptations in flight and postflight



Balance disorders
Cardiovascular deconditioning
Decreased immune function
Muscle atrophy
Bone loss



Neurovestibular

Cardiovascular

Bone

Muscle

Immunology

Nutrition

Behavior

Space Motion Sickness (SMS)

Incidence

- Affects approximately 70% of crewmembers.
- 10% of cases severe
- Symptoms From loss of appetite to nausea and vomiting
- **Time course** Onset from MECO to 24 hours; peak symptoms 24 to 48 hours; symptoms resolve by 72 to 96 hours
- Causes
 - Neurovestibular otolith mismatch, sensory conflicts
 - Fluid shift

Treatment

- Decreased activity
- 1-G orientation
- Medication (Phenergan IM)

Cardiovascular

Changes in redistribution of body fluids cause inability of the body to adapt to rapid circulatory changes, producing orthostatic symptoms postflight

- Symptoms Dizziness, lightheadedness,
- Time course From reentry to several hours postlanding
- Causes
 - Fluid shifts
 - Baroreceptor
- Treatment
 - Fluid loading
 - On-orbit exercise benefit
 - Liquid cooling garment
 - Medications





Behavioral/Psycho-Social

Changes in crew mood, morale, and circadian rhythm

- Incidence Affects all crewmembers to some degree
- **Symptoms** Fatigue and irritability, performance
- Time course Depends on flight plan
- Causes
 - Work load
 - Sleep habits and facilities
 - Crew personalities, "crew space", and cultural differences
 - Temperature
 - Noise
 - Odors
 - Atmosphere
 - Diet
 - Lack of family contact
- Treatment Treat causes



Space Flight Environmental Issues

- Radiation
- Toxic products and propellants
- Habitability
- Atmosphere
- Medical events

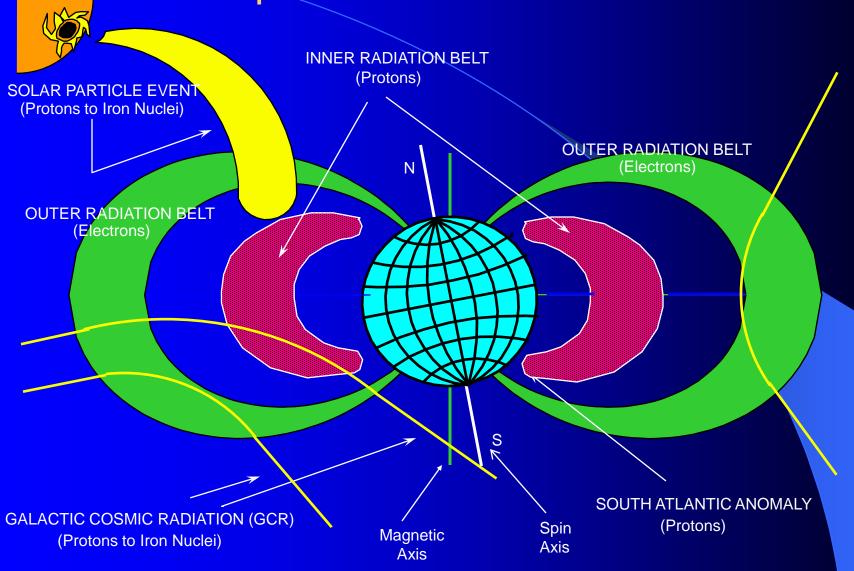
Medical events in U.S. Space Program

- Apollo 8 crew 1st Americans to report space motion sickness
- Apollo 9 space motion sickness caused EVA to be rescheduled (1st timeline change due to medical cause)
- Apollo 11 Type 1 DCS in command module pilot
- Apollo 13 Kidney infection during mission
- Apollo 15 Cardiac dysrhythmia (PVC, PAC, bigeminy) during lunar EVA
- Apollo Soyuz Test Project Nitrogen Tetroxide chemical pneumonitis on reentry

Medical Events in Russian Space Program

- Events not resulting in mission termination or early return
 - Spacecraft fires 1971, 1977, 1988, 1997
 - Kidney Stone 1982
 - Hypothermia during EVA 1985
 - Psychological stress reaction 1988
 - Spacecraft depressurization -1997
 - Toxic atmosphere 1997

The Space Radiation Environment



Representation of the major sources of ionizing radiation of importance to manned missions in low-Earth orbit. Note the spatial distribution of the trapped radiation belts.



Systems & Crew Training





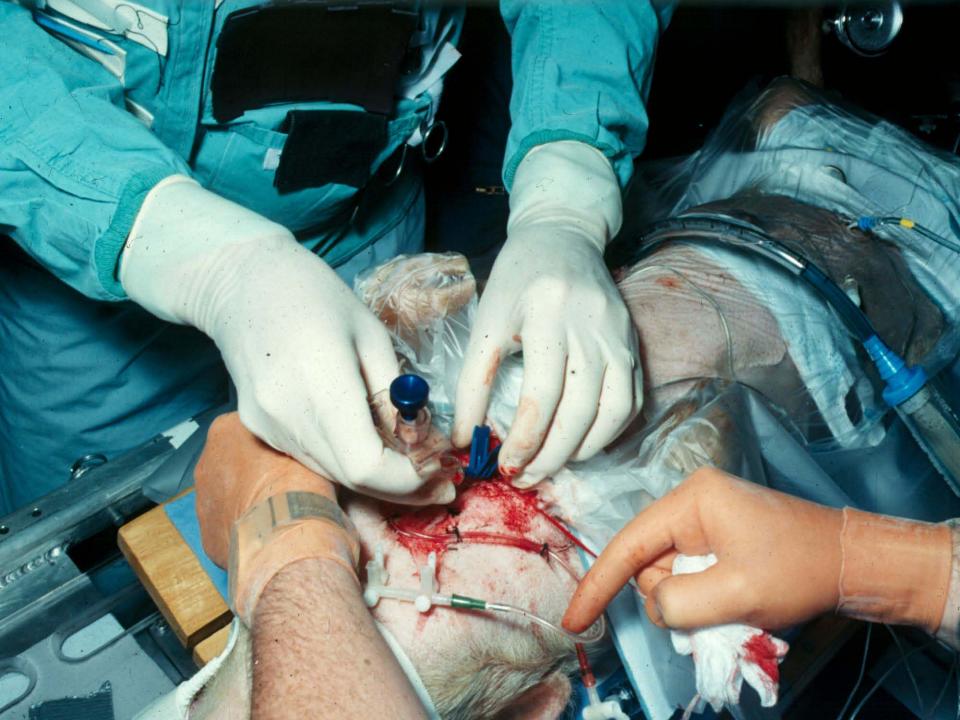
KC-135 "Weightless Wonder, Vomit Comet"



Hardware Testing and Procedure Validation

Developing ACLS algorithms for onorbit use and training











Systems & Crew Training

Shuttle Orbiter Medical System (SOMS)







DRUG SUBPACK

Systems & Crew Training

Health Maintenance System (HMS)

Defibrillator & Respiratory Support Pack (RSP)





Defibrillator RSP

Crew Medical Restraint System (CMRS)



Crew Contamination Protection Kit (CCPK)

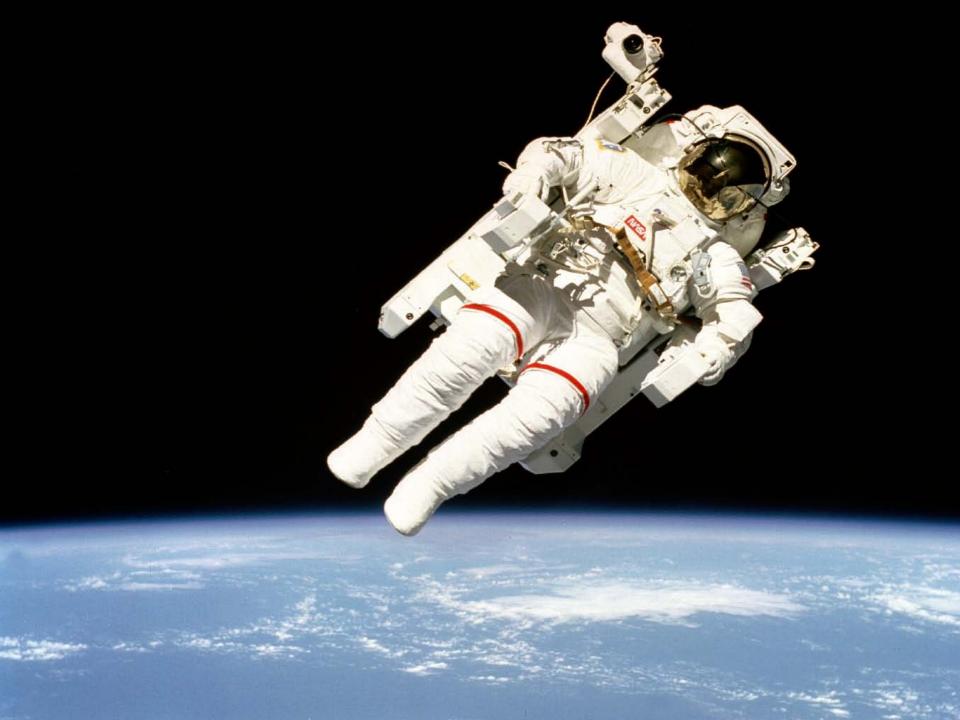










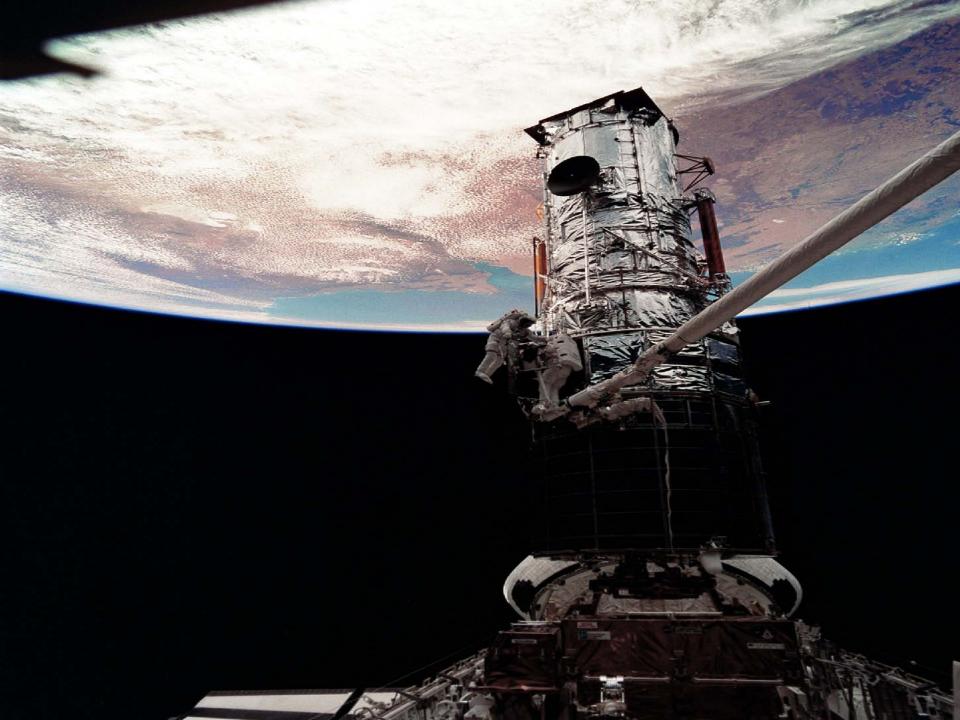


Mission Support

Extravehicular Activity (EVA) Monitoring



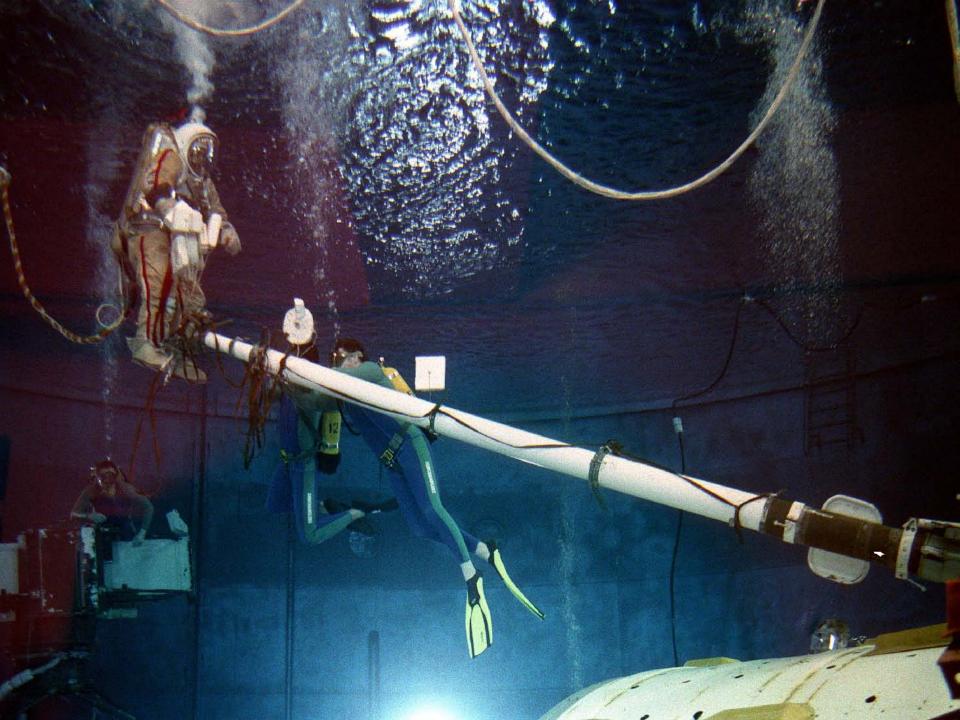












PRP EXERCISE STRATEGIES



Upright dual arm and leg cycle exercise (ALE)



Semi-recumbent intermittent light exercise simulating astronaut tasks (ILE)

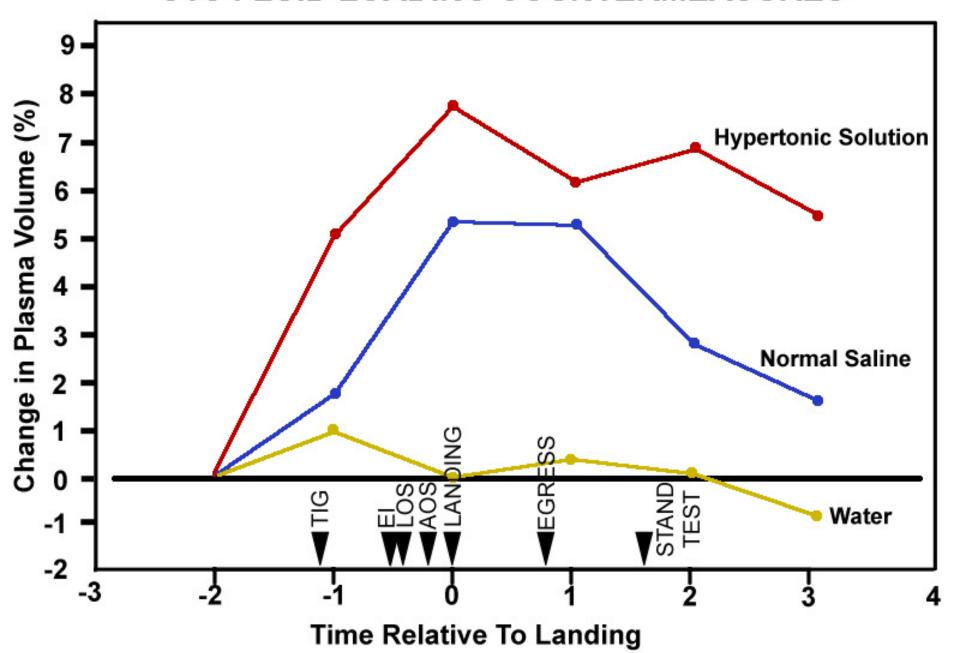




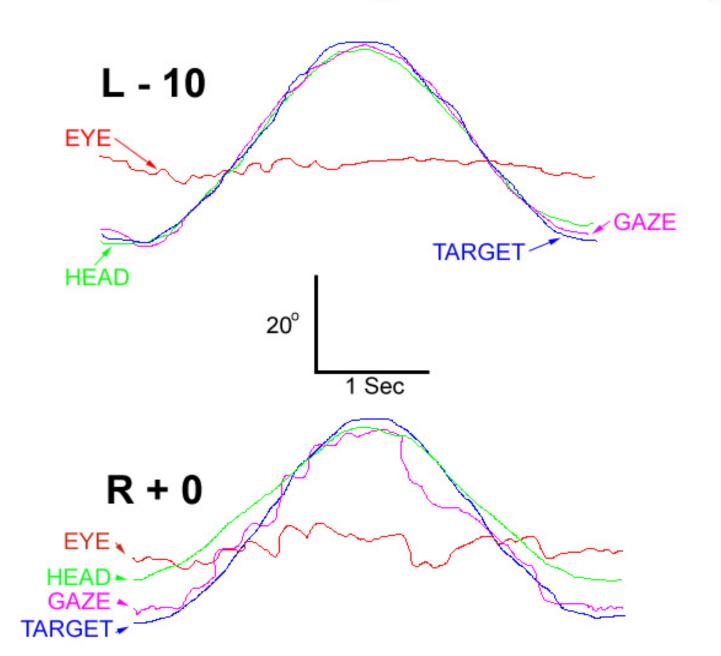


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STS FLUID LOADING COUNTERMEASURES



Vertical Pursuit Tracking With Head and Eye

























Astronaut Health

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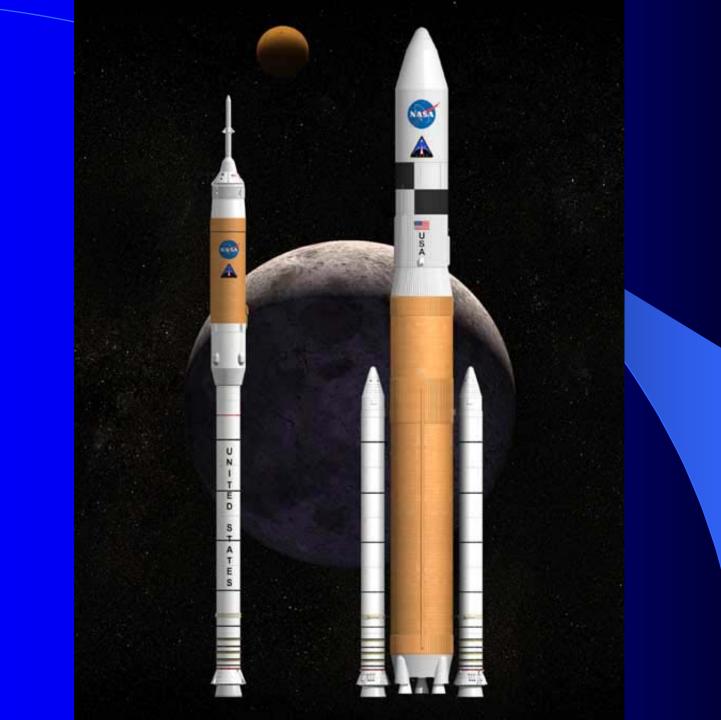
Physical training and rehabilitation















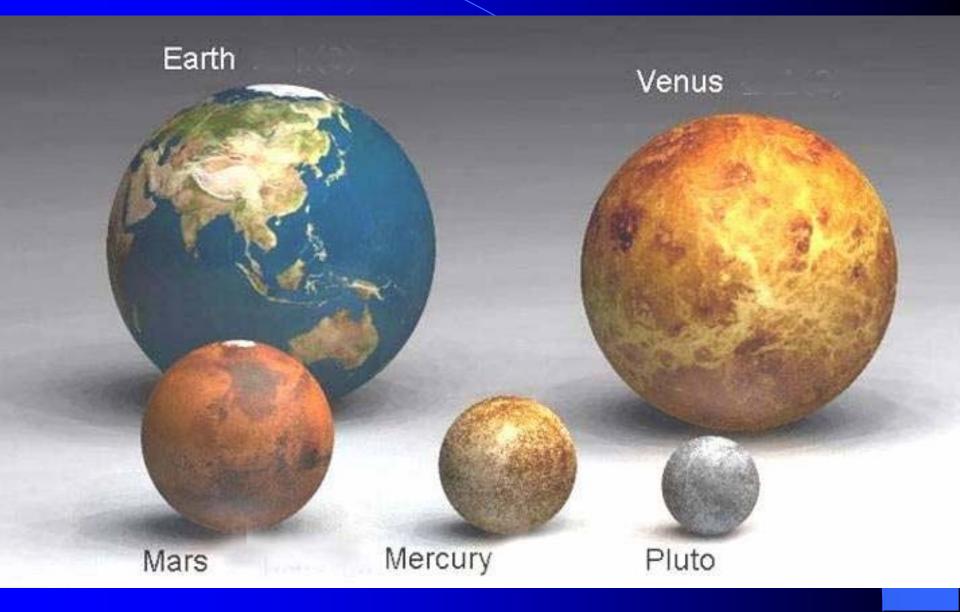


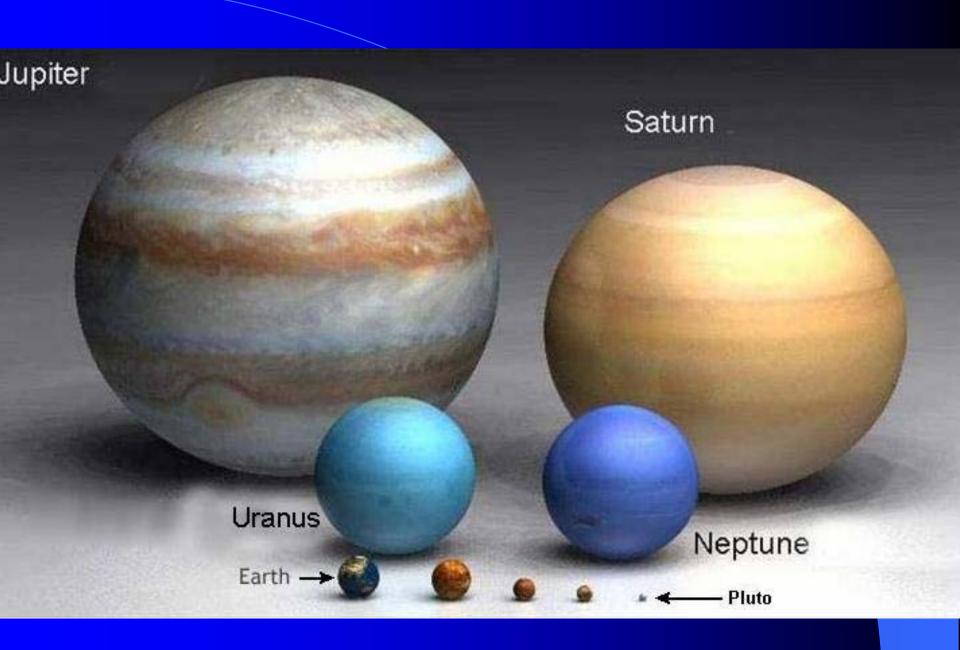


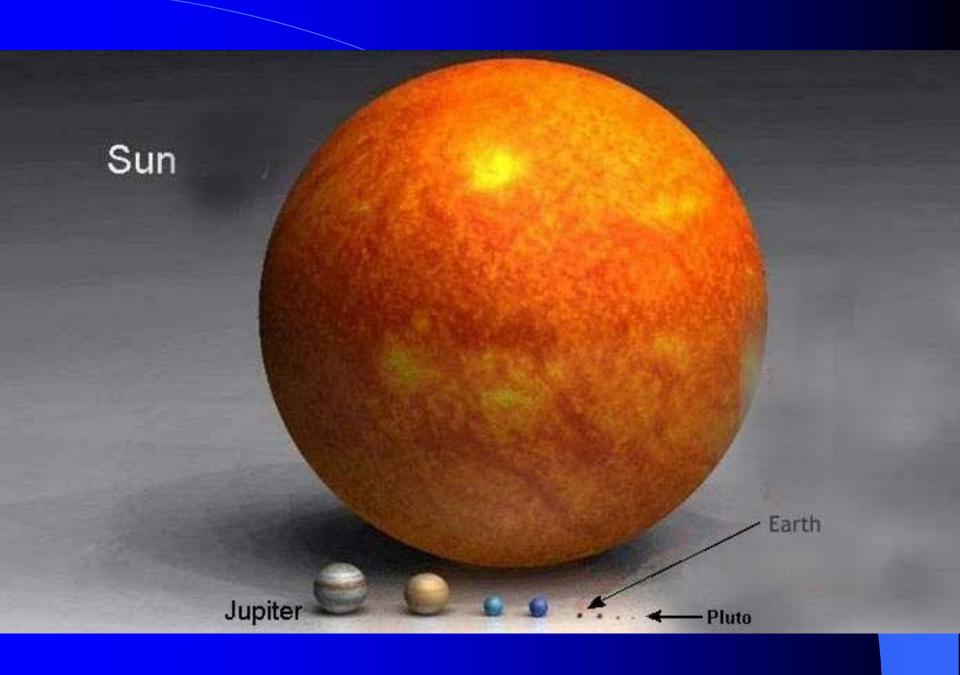


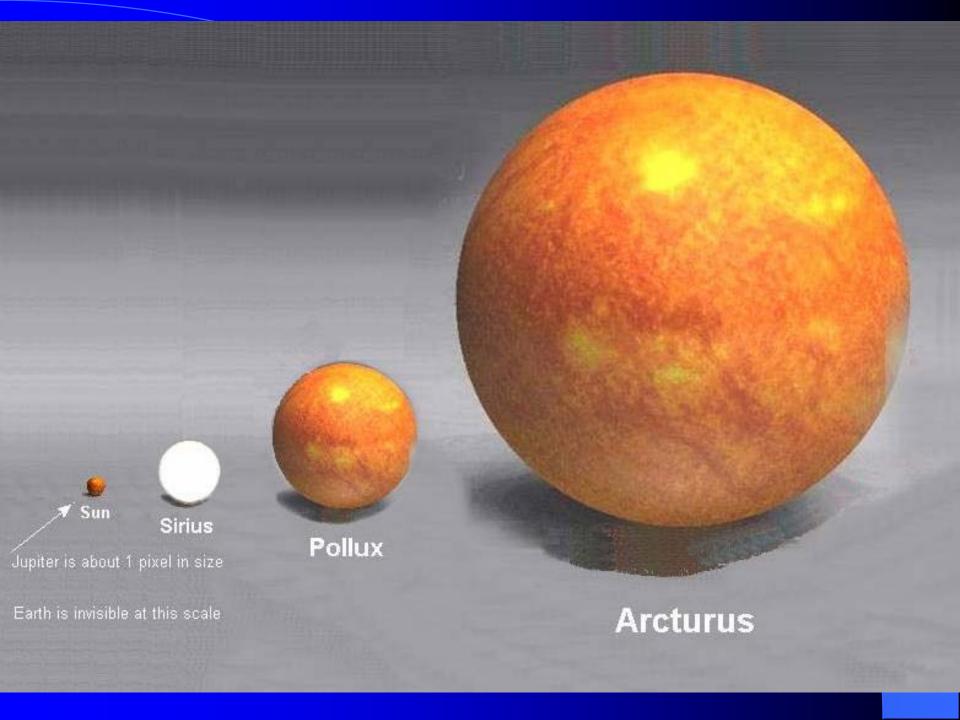


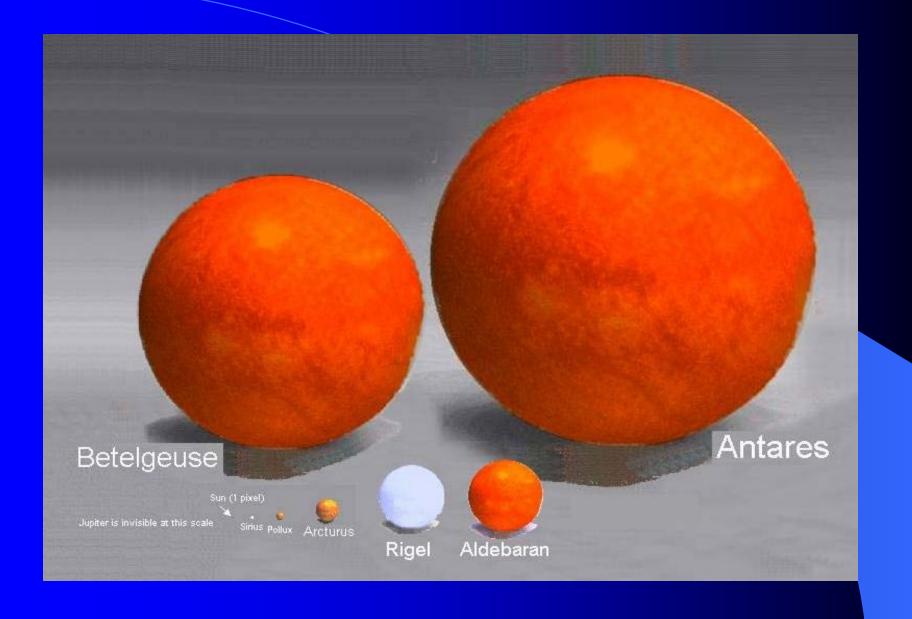
Perspective

















Morbidity Associated With Shift Workers¹⁻⁴

- Gastrointestinal disorders (eg, peptic ulcer disease)
- Hypertension/cardiovascular disease
- Psychological distress
- Work-related strain
- Drug/alcohol dependency
- Disruption in social/family life
- 1. Shields M. Health Rep. 2002;13:11-33.
- 2. ICSD. Revised. Rochester, Minn: ASDA; 1997.
- 3. Boggild H, et al. Scand J Work Environ Health. 1999;25:85-99.
- 4. Shiftwork Practices 2004. Circadian Technologies, Inc.; 2003.

Medical Care in

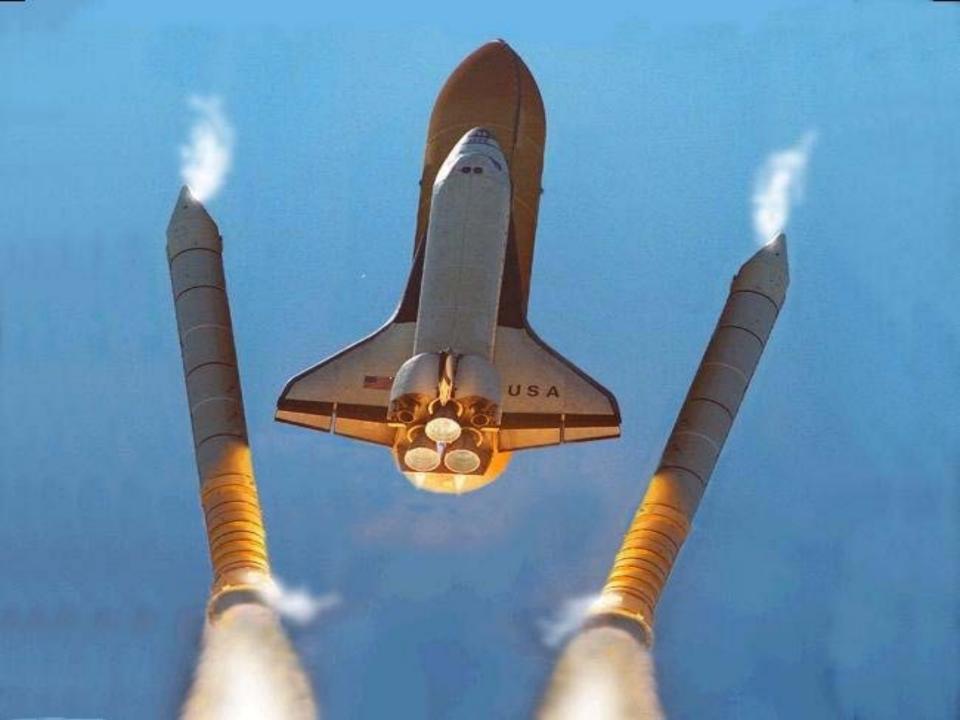


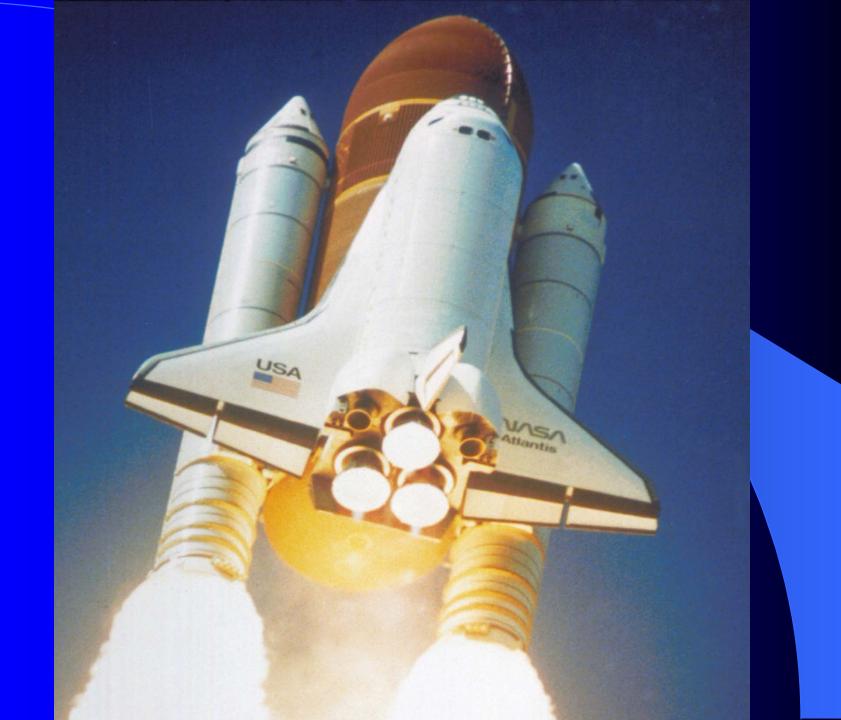
High Performance Environments

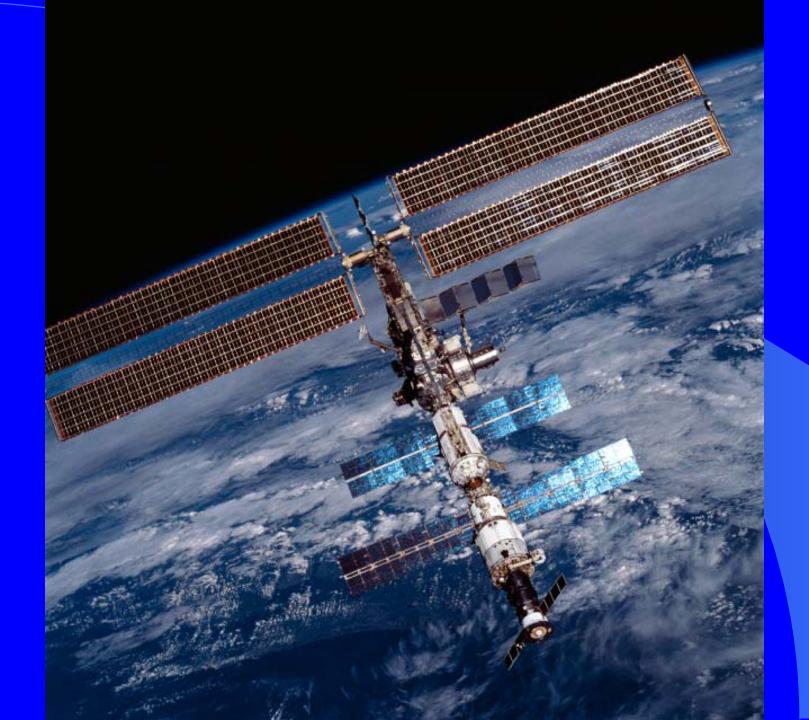
HOUSTON

FIRST WORD FROM THE MOON











Medical Care in



High Performance Environments



Really High Performance Environments



Neurovestibular

In-flight changes in neural feedback function that produce postural imbalance and loss of coordination postflight

- Incidence All crewmembers are affected to some degree
- Symptoms From vertigo and unstable gait to nausea and vomiting
- **Time course** From landing to 48 72 hours postlanding
- Causes Neurovestibular-otolith and proprioception readaptation
- Treatment
 - Avoid rapid head movements
 - Slow but progressive increase in activity
 - Medication (Phenergan, Antivert)

